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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA:

Deputy Director for Operations

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:

Chief, Soviet/East European Division

SUBJECT:

Submission of Presentation to Special Coordination Committee of Statement of Current Agency Plans in Respect to Previously Suspended Covert Action

Proposals Against USSR and EE

- 1. Action Requested: It is requested that the attached paper, "Status of Tabled Covert Action Proposals Against USSR and EE" be released to the principals of the Special Coordination Committee (SCC).
- Background: On 5 October 1977 the Special Activities Working Group of the SCC considered a number of proposals for expanded covert action against the USSR and EE which were submitted by the Agency in response to the initiative of the Chairman of the Working Group on 10 May 1977. Proposals for expanded publishing and distribution were favorably reviewed and subsequently approved by the SCC and the President. Action on two proposals for expanded covert action against national minorities in the USSR was suspended pending the preparation by the Department of State of a policy paper on the national minorities question. A proposal for expanded human rights publicity was heavily criticized at this meeting by the Department of State representative and others, was subsequently rewritten, but was not presented to the SCC after you discussed the paper with Dr. Brzezinski and Dr. Bowie. One item of the SCC agenda scheduled for 16 May will deal with unfinished business of the Working Group. The attached paper is a concise statement of our current plans with regard to the suspended proposals. We propose to convert our support to a Ukrainian emigre organization from a proprietary to a subsidy

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operation, and to give it an additional \$\mathcal{z} = \mathcal{\mathcal{A}} in FY 78 to enable it to move its Headquarters from the United States to Europe and to permit it to sustain its publishing and distribution program. We propose to carry out an exploratory survey to establish the feasibility of publishing and distribution aimed at Soviet Muslims. With regard to the human rights publicity, in light of the concerns raised by you and Dr. Brzezinski, (and most recently by the SSCI), we propose to keep this activity at its present modest level.

3. Recommendation: The release of the attached paper is recommended.

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Attachment, a/s	for E	د
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cc: DDCI		
		1.2 MAY 1978
Députy Director for Operatio	ns	Date
Deputy Director of Central I	ntelligence	Date

Release of the attached proposal to the members of the Special Coordination Committee is approved:

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Director	of	Central Inte	elligence	Ī	ate		

Director of Central Intelligence MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Operations VIA: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence MAY 1978. FROM: Chief, Soviet/East European Division SUBJECT: Submission of Presentation to Special Coordination Committee of Statement of Current Agency Plans in Respect to Previously Suspended Covert Action Proposals Against USSR and EE DUMMY COPY /s/. Ĩ. Attachment, a/s DDCI cc: Deputy Director for Operations Date Deputy Director of Central Intelligence Date Release of the attached proposal to the members of the Special Coordination Committee is approved: Director of Central Intelligence Date 1:dlv (12 May 78 R 9115) DDO/DCSE/SAC Distribution: Original DCI for approval & return to C/CAS for distribution of attachment 1 DCI w/att 1 DDCI w/att 1 C/CAS w/att 1 E/R. (dummy)1 C/SE w/att 1 DDO w/att 1 DCSE/SA w/att 1 ADDO w/att 1 SE/SA/CA w/att 1 DDO Registry (dummy

SECTION /SEMBLATVE

STATUS OF TABLED COVERT ACTION PROPOSALS AGAINST USSR AND EE

- 1. In response to an NSC request to expand covert action programs against the USSR, the Agency submitted two proposals dealing with expanded covert action against national minority groups in the USSR in 1977. These were discussed at the Special Activities Working Group meeting of 5 October 1977, but further action was suspended pending preparation of a policy paper on the national minorities issue by the Department of State. The Agency proposes the following action in regard to these two proposals:
- Ukrainian Organization: Support to this organization is part of the on-going program against the USSR. Plans for FY 79 and FY 80 are covered in the annual review. Pending policy guidance, we are not proposing at this time to expand the work of the Ukrainian organization to other national minority areas, except to encourage them to broaden their contacts with representatives of other national minority groups. intend to improve security and efficiency by converting to a subsidy operation and by moving the operational headquarters of this organization from the U.S. to Europe, as described in the 1977 proposal. This involves one-time costs of J. In addition we wish to increase their approximately 🗫 FY 78 budget by \$\mathcal{L}\$ \(\) to help sustain their long standing publishing and distribution program, which has been hard hit by dollar devaluation and inflation in the past year. (The Ukrainian organization did not receive funds from the augmented FY 78 budget for publishing and distribution because extra funds for it were requested separately in the suspended proposal.) These funds will be obtained from reprogrammed FY 78 year end funds.
- B. Muslim Minority Groups in the USSR: The tabled proposal involved a request to create a study group of Soviet Muslim emigres in Western Europe to produce material, both in a European language and in Turkish, on problems of interest to Soviet Muslims, and to disseminate such material to the USSR. Such a proposal would require new policy authority. The Agency presently plans to pursue purely exploratory efforts to determine whether special activities involving publishing and distribution aimed specifically at Soviet Muslims

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in Soviet languages would be feasible and productive. existing assets we will establish contacts with and collect information from leading emigre Soviet Muslims concerning conditions of the Muslim minority in the Soviet Union. We have explored with the Government of Saudi Arabia its willingness to provide cover and possibly funding for a research group or similar organization, intended to publish and disseminate material to Soviet Muslims. The Saudis have indicated an initial favorable reaction subject to formalizing a specific proposal. A formal agreement between Saudi Arabia and CIA to establish and fund such an entity would require a separate Presidential Finding. We estimate that the exploratory survey will require approximately six months, at which time we will report the result and submit any specific proposals for special activities aimed at Soviet Muslims for policy approval and a Presidential Finding, if required.

2. Expanded Human Rights Publicity: The Agency submitted a proposal to significantly expand its activities to promote publicity in Western Europe of Soviet and Eastern European violations of human rights. This paper has been withdrawn because of concern about the increased risks by the Department of State and others. The Agency's plans to continue this effort on its present modest but useful scale are contained in the annual review.

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	The DCI has approved the distribution	of the attached	·
	paper to the SCC principals. It was pass a talking paper in connection with	repared primarily the Soviet minori	ies
	agenda item. It also provides addition the SE/EE program which is covered in	nal background fo the CA annual rep	ort.
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